

MEMORANDUM

To: Participants in the Electric Affordability Collaborative

From: Susan Hudson, Clerk of the Board

Re: Follow up on the August 25, 2006, workshop

Date: August 29, 2006

The purpose of this memo is follow up on the August 25, 2006, Electric Affordability Collaborative workshop, and to provide further detail on the future sessions.

The August 25 workshop included two presentations: one by Jim Massie of Efficiency Vermont on efficiency services to low income households; the other by Pam Dalley of the Department of Children and Families, Division of Economic Services. The slides from the two presentations are posted on the Board's website for the Electric Affordability Collaborative (<http://www.state.vt.us/psb/document/ElectricInitiatives/Act208/Act208Main.htm>).

The next workshop will be held September 15, 9:30 to noon, in the Department of Public Service third floor Giga Conference Room, 112 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont.

The agenda for the next meeting will consist of presentations by AARP on income information/economic data; and DPS on disconnection data and disconnection fee information. At the August 25 workshop, the Board reported that the results of its recent informal survey of utilities concerning collections and arrearage data had not produced sufficient information to be useful to the group. The September 15 workshop will include time to discuss what data would be useful and available from the utilities.

Several follow-up items were identified during the workshop. They are listed as follows along with the individuals or groups that volunteered to provide information:

- Suggestions for links to sites that contain information on the New Hampshire program (Scott Anderson agreed to identify useful links to be circulated to the group before the next meeting).

- Empirical evidence on the correlation between income and electricity use (John Howat and Scott Anderson agreed to provide information to be circulated to the group before the next meeting).
- Docket 5308 data requests to utilities regarding costs of customer service and administration for credit and collections (Sharon Allen agreed to review Docket 5308 materials and provide anything relevant to this topic).
- Breakdown of annual funding for Low Income Single Family and Low Income Multi-Family programs of Efficiency Vermont (Jim Massie).
- Information items to be provided by Pam Dalley:
 - Funding breakdown for recent year(s) of seasonal fuel assistance, crisis fuel assistance and total.
 - Number of people served by LIHEAP (as distinct from households).
 - Number of households using all three available opportunities for crisis fuel assistance.
 - Study of characteristics of persons denied LIHEAP.
 - What is the trend in the number of applicants for LIHEAP?
 - How many people were turned away from LIHEAP last year?
 - What were the total dollars raised last year by ShareHeat broken down by customers versus shareholders?
- Information to be sought by PSB from the Weatherization Program:
 - How many households and what percentage of eligible households cumulatively have been served by Weatherization (PSB to follow up with Weatherization).
 - Weatherization Works evaluation report.
 - How big is the Weatherization Trust Fund at this time?
 - How much of the Weatherization Trust Fund comes from electric customers?

At the August 25 workshop, the Board provided guidance for the agenda of the September 28 meeting. The meeting will begin with the DPS report of its 10(b) study. The remainder of the agenda will be devoted to a discussion of program design and funding mechanism alternatives for Vermont. The Board is asking participants who wish to do so to prepare “straw man” proposals for discussion on September 28. At the August 25 workshop, DPS and AARP expressed their intention to offer such proposals. The Board asked that any other participants who wish to offer proposals on September 28 indicate their intention to do so. By September 15, the Board would like to know how many proposals to expect so the group can discuss the timing of the September 28 meeting.

The format of the October 17 meeting will also be discussed on September 28.

Questions about the collaborative should be directed to Deena Frankel,
deena.frankel@state.vt.us.